

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-02

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DRAFTED BY: IO/ UNESCO: RDFORSTER

APPROVED BY: IO/ UNESCO: JCHAAHR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 075953

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO NATO GENEVA PARIS FROM
LONDON APR 19

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04664

PARIS ALSO FOR NESCO

E. O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, XG, XE, XL, XM, US, UK, UNESCO

SUBJECT: US MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP
OF UNESCO

REFS: STATE 70260 AND USNATO 1941

1. WE HAVE SPOKEN TWICE THIS WEEK WITH WENBAN- SMITH,
ASSISTANT HEAD, FCO' S UN DEPARTMENT, ABOUT BRITISH
POSITION ON US CANDIDACY FOR EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP
OF UNESCO. BOTH TIMES WE HAVE RECEIVED ANSWER THAT
BRITISH ARE STILL TRYING TO CLARIFY WHAT THE US WANTS.
WENBAN- SMITH SAID THAT BRITISH TEND TO THINK THAT US
INTERESTS WOULD BE ADEQUATELY ACCOMMODATED BY OBSERVER
STATUS SINCE IT WOULD BE INCONCEIVABLE THAT EUROPEAN
REGIONAL GROUP WOULD NOT BE ACCESSIBLE TO US IN CON-
NECTION WITH POST- CSCE FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES. WE
STRESSED AGAIN AS WE HAD DONE WITH MISS SOLESBY ON
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APRIL 4 IMPORTANCE TO US OF BEING ABLE TO PLAY PART IN ACTIVITIES OF EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP ON BASIS OF FORMAL MEMBERSHIP, ESPECIALLY IN CONTEXT EAST- WEST NEGOTIATIONS AND POST CSCE ERA. WE UNDERLINED THAT OBSERVER STATUS WOULD BE INHIBITING TO OUR PLAYING ACTIVE ROLE. WE NOTED TO WENBAN- SMITH (WHO HAD NOT YET RECEIVED REPORT OF APRIL 16 POLAD' S MEETING (US NATO 1941) THAT POLAD' S WOULD PICK UP SUBJECT AGAIN IN A WEEK. WE ALSO NOTED TO HIM STRONG GENERAL SUPPORT US HAD RECEIVED IN POLAD' S.

2. COMMENT: BRITISH, LIKE FRENCH, APPEAR TO BE CONCERNED ABOUT PRECEDENT WHICH THEY BELIEVE US FULL MEMBERSHIP IN EUROPEAN REGIONAL GROUP WOULD ESTABLISH. THEY ARE ALSO STRESSING EUROPEAN CHARACTER OF REGIONAL GROUP WHICH THEY APPEAR TO THINK SHOULD BE KEPT INTACT. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT BRITISH ARE TAKING THEIR LEAD ON THIS MATTER FROM FRENCH. WE WILL PURSUE THE SUBJECT FURTHER WITH FOREIGN OFFICE AND CONTINUE TO DEPLOY ARGUMENTS IN STATE 70260 AND 56794. IF SITUATION SO WARRANTS WE WILL RAISE LEVEL OF OUR REPRESENTATIONS. SOHM
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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